AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A process for the production of a homologous or heterologous protein, comprising:

culturing a ~~Zygosaccharomyces bailii~~ *Zygosaccharomyces bailii* strain transformed with an expression vector comprising a gene coding for the protein, and

recovering the protein.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the expression vector comprises an ~~ARS~~ Autonomously Replicating Sequence (ARS) sequence from ~~S. cerevisiae~~ *S. cerevisiae*, a CEN (centromeric) sequence from ~~Z. bailii~~ *Z. bailii* or ~~S. cerevisiae~~ *S. cerevisiae*, the gene coding for the protein, a promoter controlling the expression of the gene, and a marker.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The process of claim 2, wherein the ARS sequence is the ARS1 sequence.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The process of claim 2, wherein the centromeric sequence is CEN4 from ~~S. cerevisiae~~ *S. cerevisiae*.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the expression vector contains nucleotide sequences identical to one or more nucleotide sequences in the plasmid pSB2 of ~~Z. bailii~~ *Z. bailii*.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) The process of claim 2, wherein the marker is the gene for resistance to geneticin.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) The process of claim 2, wherein the promoter is alcohol dehydrogenase 1 promoter (ADH1) and/or a galactose operon 1-10/iso-1-cytochrome c hybrid promoter (GAL_{1-10}/CYC1) from ~~S. cerevisiae~~ *S. cerevisiae*.

Claims 8-9. (Canceled)

Claim 10. (Currently amended) A method of transformation of ~~*Z. bailii*~~ *Z. bailii* strains, comprising:

electroporating in the presence of monovalent ions, reducing agents, and/or one or more nucleic acids as carriers.